NUMB. CCLXXVII.

The SPECTATOR.

——fas eſt & ab hoſte doceri. Virg.

Thurſday, January 17. 1712.

Volume I need not inform the Polite Part of my Readers, that before our Correſpondence with *France* was unhappily interrupted by the War, our Ladies had all their Faſhions from thence; which the Milleners took care to furniſh us with by means of a Jointed Baby, that came over, once a Month, habited after the Dreſs of the moſt Eminent Toaſts in *Paris*.

I am credibly informed, that even in the hotteſt Heat of the War, the Sex made ſeveral Efforts, and raiſed Contributions towards the Importation of a wooden *Mademoiſelle*.

Whether the Veſſel they ſet out was loſt or taken; whether its Cargo was ſeized on by the Officers of the Cuſtom-houſe, as a peice of Contraband Goods, I have not yet been able to learn; but however, certain their firſt Attempts were unſucceſs, to the no ſmall Diſappointment of the whole Female World; but as their Conſtancy and Application, in a matter of ſo great Importance, deſerves to be ſufficiently commended, ſo I am glad to find that in Spight of all Oppoſition, they have at laſt carried their Point, of which I received Advice by the two following Letters.

MR. SPECTATOR,

'I am ſo great a Lover of whatever is *French*, that I lately diſcarded an humble Admirer, becauſe he neither ſpoke that Tongue, nor drank Champaign. I have long bewailed, in ſecret, the Misfortunes of my Sex during the War, in all which time we have laboured under the Inſupportable Inventions of *Engliſh* Tire-women, who, though they ſometimes copy indifferently well, can never compoſe with that *Gout* they do in *France*. I was almoſt in Deſpair of ever more ſeeing a Baby from that dear Country, when laſt *Sunday* I overheard a Lady, in the next Pew to me, whiſper, that at the *Seven Stars* in *King-ſtreet* Covent-garden there was a *Mademoiſelle* compleatly dreſſed juſt come from *Paris*.

'I was in the utmoſt Impatience during the reſidue part of the Service, and as ſoon as ever it was over, having learnt the Milleners *Addreſſe*, went directly to her Houſe in *King-ſtreet*, but was told that the *French* Lady was at a Perſon of Quality's in *Pall-Mall*, and would not be expected again till very late that Night. I was therefore obliged to renew my Viſit early this Morning, and had then a full view of the dear Mopſe from Head to Foot.

'You cannot imagine, worthy Sir, how ridiculous I find we have all been truſſed up during the War, and how infinitely the *French*-dreſs excells ours.

'The Mantua has no Leads in the Sleeves, and I hope we are not lighter than the *French* Ladies, ſo as to want that kind of Ballaſt; the Petticoat has no Whale-bone, but ſets with an Air altogether galant and *degagé*; the *Coiffeure* is inexpreſſibly pretty, and in ſhort, the whole Dreſs has a thouſand Beauties in it, which I would not have as yet made too publick.

'I thought fit, however, to give you this Notice, that you may not be ſurprized at my appearing *à la mode de Paris* on the next Birth-Night.

I am, SIR,

Your humble Servant,

Teraminta.

Within an Hour after I had read this Letter, I received another from the Owner of the Puppet.

SIR,

'ON *Saturday* laſt, being the 12th Inſtant, there arrived at my Houſe in *King-ſtreet, Covent-Garden*, a *French* Baby for the Year 1712. I have taken the utmoſt Care to have her dreſſed by the moſt celebrated Tyre-women and Mantua-makers in *Paris*, and do not find that I have any reaſon to be ſorry for the Expence I have been at in her Cloaths and Importation: However, as I know no Perſon who is ſo good a Judge of Dreſs, as your ſelf, if you pleaſe to call at my Houſe in your way to the City, and take a View of her, I promiſe to amend whatever you ſhall diſapprove in your next Paper, before I exhibit her as a Pattern to the Publick.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt humble Admirer,
and moſt obedient Servant,

Betty Croſs-ſtitch.

As I am willing to do any thing in reaſon for the Service of my Country-women, and had much rather prevent Faults than find them, I went laſt Night to the Houſe of the above-mentioned Mrs. *Croſs-ſtitch*. As ſoon as I enter'd, the Maid of the Shop, who, I ſuppoſe, was prepared for my coming, without asking me any Queſtions introduced me to the little Damſel, and ran away to call her Miſtreſs.

The Puppet was dreſſed in a Cherry-coloured Gown and Petticoat, with a ſhort working Apron

over

over it, which discovered her Shape to the most Advantage. Her Hair was cut and divided very prettily, with several Ribbons stuck up and down in it. The Milliner assured me, that her Complexion was such as was worn by all the Ladies of the best Fashion in *Paris*. Her Head was extreamly high, on which Subject having long since declared my Sentiments, I shall say nothing more to it at present. I was also offended at a small Patch she wore on her Breast, which I cannot suppose is placed there with any good Design.

Her Necklace was of an immoderate length, being tied before in such a manner, that the two ends hung down to her Girdle; but whether these supply the place of Kissing-Strings in our Enemy's Country, and whether our *Brittish* Ladies have any occasion for them, I shall leave to their serious Consideration.

After having observed the Particulars of her Dress, as I was taking a view of it all together, the Shop-Maid, who is a pert Wench, told me that *Mademoiselle* had something very Curious in the tying of her Garters; but as I pay a due Respect even to a pair of Sticks when they are under Petticoats, I did not examine into that Particular.

Upon the whole I was well enough pleased with the Appearance of this gay Lady, and the more so, because she was not Talkative, a Quality very rarely to be met with in the rest of her Country-women.

As I was taking my leave, the Millener farther informed me, that with the Assistance of a Watch-maker, who was her Neighbour, and the Ingenious Mr. *Powell*, she had also contrived another Puppet, which by the help of several little Springs to be wound up within it, could move all its Limbs, and that she had sent it over to her Correspondent in *Paris*, to be taught the various Leanings and Bendings of the Head, the Risings of the Bosome, the Curtesy and Recovery, the genteel Trip, and the agreeable Jet, as they are all now practised at the Court of *France*.

She added, that she hoped she might depend upon having my Encouragement as soon as it arrived; but as this was a Petition of too great importance to be answered *extempore*, I left her without a Reply, and made the best of my way to WILL. HONEYCOMB's Lodgings, without whose Advice I never communicate any thing to the Publick of this Nature.

The First and Second Volumes of the SPECTATOR *in 8vo are now ready to be delivered to the Subscribers, by* J. Tonson *at* Shakespear's *Head over-against* Catherine-street *in the* Strand.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

At the particular Desire of several Ladies of Quality.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians,

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this present Thursday, the 17th Day of January, will be presented the Last Reviv'd Play call'd, The Tempest; or The Inchanted Island. As it was altered from Shakespear by Sir Will. D'avenant, and the late Mr. Dryden, Poets Laureat. With new Scenes, Machines, and all the Original Decorations proper to the Play. By her Majesty's Command no Persons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

At the Desire of several Persons of Quality.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, this present Thursday, being the 17th Day of January, will be perform'd an Opera called Hydaspes. The Pit and Boxes to be put together, and no Person to be admitted without Tickets, which will be delivered out at the Theatre at 8s. each Ticket. The First Gallery 5s. per Gallery 1s. 6d. Boxes upon the Stage half a Guinea. To begin exactly at Six.

A Penny-Post Letter, dated the 15th Instant, signed G. B. is come to the Hands of the Person to whom it is directed. If the Gentleman, who wrote the said Letter, Lives in Writing, or otherwise, let the Person to whom it was directed know where he may see him, he doubts not but to give full Satisfaction as to the Contents of his said Letter.

A Course of Experiments in order to demonstrate the Laws of the Gravitations of Fluids. The various Properties of the Air in relation to its Weight, Spring, Necessity of Subsistence in the Conservation of Life, and Production of Flame and Sound. Together with several new Experiments touching Light and Blasts produceable on the Attrition of Bodies. Experiments concerning the different Refraction of a Ray of Light passing thro' different Mediums. Experiments shewing the Effect of Viciated Air on the Lives of Animals. Experiments touching the Transparency of several Bodies both Dark under the Circumstances of a Vacuum and Attrition, such as Phosphur, Sealing-Wax and Pitch. The Nature of Vision explained; and the various Properties of Optick Glasses demonstrated. Will begin at Mr. Fra. Hauksbee's, Sen. F. R. S. in Hind-Court, Fleetstreet, on Monday the 21st Instant; where Subscriptions are taken in, and Proposals Account more at large given. He being the only Person now living the late Improvements are owing. N. B. There will be Lectures explaining the several Heads.

The late Sergeant Streeter's Collection of Pictures and Drawings, will be Sold by Auction this Day the 17th of this Instant January, at the two blue Flower Pots next to St. Dunstan's Church, Fleetstreet. The Sale will begin exactly at 4 in the Afternoon, and so continue every Evening (Sundays excepted) till all is Sold; which will be in 12 Days, it being resolved to sell 100 Lots each Night. Note, This is a most extraordinary Collection, the Sergeant and his Father having been upwards of 70 Years Collecting the same. To enumerate the Masters, would make this Advertisement too tedious, it consisting of all the Painters and Drawings that have made any Figure in the World; the like not having been exposed to Sale, for many Years past, and is worth the Speculation of the Curious.

An excellent Collection of the late Earl of Jersey's Pictures by the best Italian and other Masters, will be Sold by Auction on Saturday the 19th Instant, at Mr. Syke's House the two Golden Balls in Portugal-row in Lincoln's-Inn Fields; the Sale to begin at 9 a-Clock. The Pictures may be viewed this Day and to Morrow. Catalogues had at the Place of Sale.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

To Morrow being the 18th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house, in Lombard-street, at 4 in the Afternoon, (only One Cask in a Lott) 23 Buts of Excellent new Red Alicant Wine, very bright, fresh, strong, and of the largest Gage, near, an exact Parcel of the very last Vintage, imported by the Hope Galley, Wm. Crenker Master, directly from Alicant, and landed the 15th Inst. at Dice Key; now in a Vault in Dog-Tavern Yard against the Tavern at Billingsgate. Also 8 Pipes of extraordinary good White, and 4 Pipes of Red Lisbon Wine, neat and entire, in a Vault at the Peacock Ale-house in Bear-lane in Tower street (near the Custom-house) in Thames-street. All the aforesaid Wines are to be seen and tasted this Day and all Friday till the Time of Sale. To be Sold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane in Tower-street.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

On Thursday the 24th Instant, at Garraway's Coffee-house in Exchange-Alley in Cornhil, at 3 in the Afternoon (but one Cask in a Lot) 87 Hogsheads of excellent French Claret, in Fit, la Tour, Margaux Obrion, and other of the best Growths of France, deep, bright, and of the true Flavour, fit for present Drinking, having been racked in France, and remain neat as they were imported (not one Hogshead of Claret Sold out of these Vaults) excepting the Carro of the Ship Christina, Borge Hanson Master, lately from Bourdeaux, pursuant to an Act made the last Session of Parliament. The said Wines are now in Vault in Tokenhouse-yard, at the back-side of Leadenhall Coffee-house in Leadenhall-street, to be Seen and tasted next Tuesday the 22d, and Wednesday the 23d from 8 to 1, and from 2 to 5, and all Thursday (as above) the time of Sale. Catalogues shall be timely dispers'd by Tho. Tomkins Broker.

This Day is Published,

Proposals for a Lottery of Three Millions (Redeemable by Parliament) containing likewise a Parallel View of the present Lotteries; exemplified with proper Tables exactly calculated, readily shewing at Inspection their true Value, at Six, Seven, Nine and Ten per Cent. per Ann. Compound Interest for 30 Years. With an Appendix, concerning the Nature and Usefulness of Lotteries for raising Supplies of Money for the Publick Occasions. Printed by Andrew Bell, at the Cross Keys and Bible in Cornhill. Where is to be had an exact Table of the Course of Payment in the last Lottery. Price 6d.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.